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## AIR POWER STUDY WILL OPEN TODAY

Generals Bradley and Smith  
First Witnesses Called by  
Symington Inquiry

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, April 15—The state of the nation's air power will share the Congressional spotlight this week with the President's decision on the farm bill.

A Senate Armed Services subcommittee headed by Senator Stuart Symington, Democrat of Missouri, is scheduled to start open hearings tomorrow. Gen. Omar N. Bradley and Gen. Walter Bedell Smith have been announced as the first witnesses.

The inquiry grew out of charges by Senator Symington and some of his Democratic colleagues. It will attempt to discover whether this country's air defenses have been allowed to lag dangerously behind those of the Soviet Union.

Both Senator Symington and Senator Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington, have charged that the Communists are building more long-range jet bombers than the United States and are ahead in experiments with intercontinental ballistic missiles.

In addition to Senators Symington and Jackson, the subcommittee includes Senators Sam J. Ervin of North Carolina, Democrat, and Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts and James H. Duff of Pennsylvania, Republicans.

Senator Jackson, appearing on the American Broadcasting Company's television program, "College Press Conference," charged that the President's re-

quest for additional funds was an "attempt to avoid an effective hearing" and "a confession of weakness."

He accused the Administration of withholding a needed air power build-up so as to point to a balanced budget for campaign purposes. He predicted that there would be "a big defense bill right after the election."

In a move to placate Congressional critics, President Eisenhower last week requested that an additional \$376,500,000 be added to the Air Force budget request of \$15,500,000,000 for the 1957 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 1956.

But today Senator Richard B. Russell, Democrat of Georgia, chairman of the full Armed Services Committee, said he might try to boost the funds even further. His comment came after he had asked Donald S. Quarles, Secretary of the Air Force, what the Air Force would do if Congress gave it an additional \$1,500,000,000.

Secretary Quarles replied that any such money should be put in a new Air Force account to be used only when approved by Charles E. Wilson, the Secretary of Defense, and the Budget Bureau.

Senator John S. Stennis, Democrat of Mississippi, commented that he did not consider Mr. Quarles' reply "responsive."

### Long-Term Aid Supported

Mr. Quarles said the bulk of the new funds asked by the President would be used to step up production of the B-52, a long-range jet bomber. Any additional money he said, might be used for ballistic missiles.

The long-term planning feature of the Administration's \$4,672,475,000 foreign-aid bill, meanwhile, received support from twelve Democratic House members. In a statement they endorsed the President's request for authority to enter into long-run commitments with other nations. The bill is before the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Action on another Administration proposal, the \$50,000,000,000 highway building program, is expected during the week. The House Public Works Committee hopes to complete action on the measure Tuesday.

Both houses have only routine measures scheduled for debate during the week. But an attempt may be made to override a Presidential veto of the farm bill if one is forthcoming.